

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1-38. Cancelled

39. (New) An isolated nucleic acid coding for the human cell volume-regulated kinase (h-sgk) consisting of the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:2.

40. (New) An isolated nucleic acid consisting of the nucleotide sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:1.

41. (New) A nucleic acid encoding an amino acid sequence consisting of approximately the region of amino acid position 313 to 431 of the amino acid sequence as claimed in claim 40.

42. (New) A nucleic acid consisting of approximately the region of nucleotide position 980 to 1480 of the nucleic acid sequence as claimed in claim 40.

43. (New) A nucleic acid, which is capable of hybridizing under conditions of Northern hybridization or *in situ*-hybridization to an RNA which, either in the sense or antisense direction, consisting of the nucleotide sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 1, the capability of hybridizing being confined to approximately the region corresponding to nucleotide position 980 to 1480 of SEQ ID NO:1.

44. (New) A nucleic acid fragment coding for an immunogenic fragment of the human cell volume-regulated kinase (h-sgk) consisting of at least one of the following amino acid sequences:

DPEFTEEPVPNSIGKSPDS (SEQ ID. NO: 3)

EAFLGFSYAPPTDSFL (SEQ ID. NO: 4)

45. (New) A composition comprising the nucleic acid as claimed in claim 39 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

46. (New) A composition comprising the nucleic acid as claimed in claim 40 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

47. (New) A composition comprising the nucleic acid as claimed in claim 41 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

48. (New) A composition comprising the nucleic acid as claimed in claim 42 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

49. (New) A composition comprising the nucleic acid as claimed in claim 43 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

50. (New) A composition comprising the nucleic acid as claimed in claim 44 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.